



# Australian Bureau of Statistics

## **1270.0.55.003 - Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 3 - Non ABS Structures, July 2015**

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## **Summary**

### **Main Features**

#### **THE 2015 UPDATE OF ASGS NON-ABS STRUCTURES**

This product releases updates to the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Non-ABS Structure regions that have changed since the 1 July 2014. Changes have occurred in the Tourism Regions (TR). There have been no changes to the Local Government Areas (LGAs) however an updated edition of the 2015 LGAs is provided in this product.

The ASGS brings all the regions for which the ABS publishes statistics within the one framework and has been in use for the collection and dissemination of geographically classified statistics since 1 July 2011. It is the framework for understanding and interpreting the geographical context of statistics published by the ABS. The ABS also encourages the use of the ASGS by other organisations to improve the comparability and usefulness of statistics generally.

The Non-ABS Structures of the ASGS bring together those regions which are not defined by the ABS, but which are supported by the ABS. They generally represent administrative regions and are approximated by Mesh Block (MB), Statistical Area Level 1 (SA1) or Statistical Area Level 2 (SA2).

As the Non-ABS Structures represent regions that are subject to ongoing change, this update to the Non-ABS Structures contains revised digital boundaries, codes and labels for regions that have changed since the last edition. Most of the individual structures are only updated where significant change has occurred in the past year. LGAs however, are an exception and are released annually regardless if there has been change or not.

Detailed information about Non-ABS Structures including the publication, 2011 digital boundaries and allocation tables are in the 2011 edition of this publication:

Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 3 - Non ABS Structures, July 2011 (cat no. 1270.0.55.003)

#### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS (LGA)**

Local Government Areas (LGAs) are an ABS approximation of officially gazetted LGAs as defined by each State and Territory (S/T) local government departments.

ABS approximated LGAs cover incorporated areas of Australia. Incorporated areas are

legally designated parts of S/T over which incorporated local governing bodies have responsibility. There are parts of Australia not administered by incorporated bodies. These regions are identified as 'Unincorporated' in the ABS LGA structure. In this set of LGA digital boundaries 'Unincorporated' areas, which represent actual places on the ground, are represented as spatial records. Previous LGA editions for 2011 and 2012 did not contain spatial objects in their respective digital boundaries for all Unincorporated areas.

In all States and the Northern Territory each incorporated area has an official status. The various LGA status types currently in use are:

- New South Wales: Cities (C) and Areas (A)
- Victoria: Cities (C), Rural Cities (RC), Boroughs (B) and Shires (S)
- Queensland: Cities (C), Shires (S), Towns (T) and Regional Councils (R)
- South Australia: Cities (C), Rural Cities (RC), Municipalities/Municipal Councils (M), District Councils (DC), Regional Councils (RegC), Towns (T) and Aboriginal Councils (AC)
- Western Australia: Cities (C), Towns (T) and Shires (S)
- Tasmania: Cities (C) and Municipalities (M)
- Northern Territory: Cities (C), Towns (T), Municipalities (M), Shires (S) and Regional Councils (R).

Further information about LGAs can be found in the 2011 publication of the Non-ABS Structures:

ASGS Non ABS Structures July 2011 - Chapter 2 Local Government Areas

Changes to ABS approximated LGAs are only made when a whole MB can be allocated to represent the official LGA change. If the MB cannot be used to approximate the change, the ABS LGA has remained the same.

The 2015 edition of LGAs is unchanged from the 2014 edition of LGAs.

## **TOURISM REGIONS (TR)**

Tourism Regions (TR) are provided by Tourism Research Australia (TRA) which are part of the Australian Trade Commission (Austrade).

The TRs are updated annually by TRA in consultation with State and Territory (S/T) tourism organisations. The number of TRs, their names and their boundaries vary over time. The TRs are constructed from allocations of whole SA2s.

Further information about TRs can be found in the 2011 publication of the Non-ABS Structures:

ASGS Non ABS Structures July 2011 - Chapter 9 Tourism Regions

## **About this Release**

ASGS Non-ABS Structures are geographic areas not defined by the ABS, they are however supported by the ABS. This product releases updates to those regions that have changed

since the last release. The digital boundaries, codes and labels for each of these regions are all available within this product.

# Explanatory Notes

## Metadata for Digital Boundary Files

### METADATA FOR DIGITAL BOUNDARY FILES - ASGS NON ABS STRUCTURES

#### TITLE

**Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Volume 3 - Non-ABS Structures**  
(cat no. 1270.0.55.003)

#### Data Currency

1 July 2015

#### Presentation Format

Digital boundaries

#### CUSTODIAN

Australian Bureau of Statistics

#### DESCRIPTION

##### Abstract

This edition of the **Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Volume 3 - Non-ABS Structures** (cat no. 1270.0.55.003), is the 2015 update of the ASGS Volume 3 that was published in July 2014. It contains the names, codes and digital boundaries for regions that have changed since the 2014 release.

The digital boundaries for this update to Volume 3 of the ASGS represent the Non-ABS Structures, comprising of:

- Local Government Area (LGA)
- Tourism Region (TR).

#### File Nomenclature

File names have the format <file type>\_<2015>\_<AUST> where:

<file type> represents the type of boundaries in each file  
LGA = Local Government Area

TR = Tourism Region  
 <2015> represents 2015 the year of the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Edition

<AUST> indicates the data relates to Australia.

Where applicable States and Territories are identified by unique one digit codes, as listed below:

#### State and Territory Codes and Names

Code	S/T
1	New South Wales
2	Victoria
3	Queensland
4	South Australia
5	Western Australia
6	Tasmania
7	Northern Territory
8	Australian Capital Territory
9	Other Territories

#### File Attributes

All tables show file type, file name, spatial unit field and the data type.

#### File Type

Local Government Area (LGA)

#### File Name (s)

LGA\_2015\_AUST

Count	Field (mid/mif)	Field (ESRI shp)	Data Type
1	LGA_CODE_2015	LGA_CODE15	Character(5)
2	LGA_NAME_2015	LGA_NAME15	Character(50)
3	STATE_CODE_2011	STE_CODE11	Character(1)
4	STATE_NAME_2011	STE_NAME11	Character(30)
5	AREA_ALBERS_SQKM	AREA_SQKM	Float

#### File Type

Tourism Region (TR)

#### File Name (s)

TR\_2015\_AUST

Count	Field (mid/mif)	Field (ESRI shp)	Data Type
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1	TR_CODE_2015	TR_CODE15	Character(5)
2	TR_NAME_2015	TR_NAME15	Character(50)
3	STATE_CODE_2011	STE_CODE11	Character(1)
4	STATE_NAME_2011	STE_NAME11	Character(30)
5	AREA_ALBERS_SQKM	AREA_SQKM	Float

## **DATA CURRENCY**

### **Date of Effect**

1 July 2015

## **DATASET STATUS**

### **Progress**

Completed dataset.

### **Maintenance and Update Frequency**

As the Non-ABS Structures represent regions that are subject to ongoing change, the ABS will release a revised publication for ASGS Non-ABS Structures in July each year. The individual structures will only be updated where significant change has occurred in the past year. The only exception being LGAs and TRs which will be released annually.

## **ACCESS**

### **Stored Data Format**

The digital boundary files are in MapInfo Interchange Format (.MID .MIF) and ESRI Shapefile (.shp) format.

MapInfo Interchange Format can be imported directly into MapInfo and other common Geographic Information Systems (GIS) or desktop mapping packages. The .MID .MIF files are text format and can be edited and manipulated for import to less common GIS and CAD systems.

The .MID .MIF files cannot be used directly with viewing tools such as MapInfo ProViewer.

### **Access Constraints**

Copyright Commonwealth of Australia administered by the ABS.

### **Datum**

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994 (GDA94)

The digital boundary files have the datum specified as 116 (GDA94). Users of MapInfo 6.0 or later are able to load data sets based on GDA94 directly, without transformation. Earlier

versions of MapInfo cannot interpret GDA94 correctly and there may be alignment problems between data sets based on this datum and other earlier datums.

## **Projection**

Geographical (i.e. Latitudes and Longitudes)

## **Geographic Extent**

Geographic Australia

## **DATA QUALITY**

### **Lineage**

Mesh Blocks (MB) are the building blocks of the ASGS regions. MB boundaries were created using various sources including the PSMA digital topographic datasets, ABS 2011 SLA boundaries and zoning information from state planning agencies and imagery.

### **Positional Accuracy**

Positional accuracy is an assessment of the closeness of the location of the spatial objects in relation to their true positions on the earth's surface.

The positional accuracy includes:

- a horizontal accuracy assessment
- a vertical accuracy assessment

Positional accuracy for ABS boundaries is dependent on the accuracy of the features they have been aligned to. ABS boundaries are aligned to a number of layers supplied by PSMA with an accuracy of +/-50 mm.

PSMA layers and their positional accuracy are as follows:

- Transport and Topography  
+/- 2 meters in urban areas and +/- 10 meters in rural and remote areas
- CadLite  
+/- 2 meters in urban areas and +/- 10 meters in rural and remote areas
- Administrative Boundaries  
Derived from the cadastre data from each Australian State and Territory jurisdiction
- Greenspace and Hydrology  
Relative spatial accuracy of these themes reflects that of the jurisdictional source data. Generally the accuracy is +/- 2 metres in urban areas and +/- 10 metres in rural and remote areas.

### **Attribute Accuracy**

All codes and labels for all structures within the ASGS 2015 Non-ABS Structures are fully validated.

## Logical Consistency

Spatial units are closed polygons. Attribute records without spatial objects have been included in the data for administrative purposes.

## Completeness

All structures within the 2015 ASGS Non-ABS Structures are represented.

For the 2015 edition, some Unincorporated LGAs are represented as spatial records in the digital boundaries.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Contact Organisation

Australian Bureau of Statistics

### Contact

ABS Statistical Geography

### Contact information

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## Metadata for CSV Files

### METADATA FOR CSV FILES - ASGS NON-ABS STRUCTURES

The product **Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Volume 3 - Non-ABS Structures** (cat no. 1270.0.55.003) contains comma-separated value (.csv) files. These files list the codes, labels and hierarchies for the 2015 updated regions within the ASGS Non-ABS Structures.

There are .csv files listing the geographical hierarchies for the following regions:

- Local Government Area (LGA) for each State and Territory (9 csv. files)
- Tourism Region (TR).

Note that LGAs have MBs as the lowest level and TRs have SA2s as the lowest level unit.

### FILE CONTENTS:

The LGA .csv files are broken up by State and Territory they each contain the following fields:

MB\_CODE\_2011  
LGA\_CODE\_2015  
LGA\_NAME\_2015  
STATE\_CODE\_2011  
STATE\_NAME\_2011  
AREA\_ALBERS\_SQKM

The TR .csv file contains the following fields:

SA2\_MAINCODE\_2011  
SA2\_NAME\_2011  
TR\_CODE\_2015  
TR\_NAME\_2015  
STATE\_CODE\_2011  
STATE\_NAME\_2011  
AREA\_ALBERS\_SQKM

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